

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 39, line 16 of the specification with the following paragraph:**

In the above-described regeneration-platemaking-printing cycle the imagewise exposing part 6a, which is characteristic of the present invention, i.e., the unit for imagewise irradiating the hydrophobilized printing plate precursor with far-ultraviolet active light is described in more detail with reference to Fig. 4. Fig. 4 presents a schematic illustration showing the mechanism and the structure of the imagewise exposing part using a solid state laser as a light source. The solid state laser 11 has oscillation wavelengths of 512 nm and its half, i.e., 256 nm. In this embodiment, far-ultraviolet light having a wavelength of 256 nm is made use of. Laser light emitted from the laser 11 is made into parallel beams through a collimator and reflected and split through an optical system composed of mirrors 12, 13', 14a, 14d and half mirrors 13, 14c, and ~~14d~~ 14b to reach the platemaking-printing mechanisms a, b, c, and d. Each split beam passes through the respective optical device system for bearing image information which comprises a spatial light modulator 15a, 15b, 15c or 15d and a condensing lens 16a, 16b, 16c or 16d into a laser beam bearing the respective monochromatic image information, which, being reflected on a half mirror 17a, 17b, 17c or 17c, reaches to the printing plate precursor to conduct imagewise exposure.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 50, line 24 of the specification with the following paragraph:**

The following test was carried out using, in the overall hydrophobilizing part 4a (Fig. 2), a hydrophobilizing unit of the type shown in Fig. 6 in which vapor of a hydrophobilizer is condensed to form a hydrophobilizing layer. The hydrophobilizing unit had a glass tube 26 having an inner diameter of about 30 mm (a separatory funnel was made use of) was connected to an air inlet ~~24~~36 almost horizontally to that open air might enter the inside of the unit through the glass tube 26. Diatomaceous earth impregnated with silicon oil (Silicon KF99 available from Shin-Etsu Chemical Co. Ltd.) 27 was put into the lower half of the glass tube 26 (50% of the volume of the glass tube). The glass tube 26 was heated by an electric heater 30 so that the temperature of air entering through the inlet ~~24~~36 was elevated from room temperature up to 150°C while passing through the tube. Since Silicon KF99 has a vapor pressure of at least 1 mmHg at that temperature, the air entering the inside of the unit contained vapor of Silicon KF99. The air exchange rate in the inside space of the unit, which was 2 liters, was 10 vol% per minute. In Fig. 6, numeral 31 indicates an electric heater, ~~and~~ numerals 32 and 33 are temperature sensors, and numeral 34 is a temperature control section.